

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of manufacturing a stabilizer bar comprising the step of thermal spraying a surface of a bar forming a thickened portion of the bar on the surface relative to another portion of the bar.
2. The method according to claim 1 comprising the step of shot peening the bar subsequent to the thermal spraying step.
3. The method according to claim 2 comprising the step of heat treating the bar between the thermal spraying and shot peening steps.
4. The method according to claim 3 comprising the step of forming the bar into a desired stabilizer bar shape between the thermal spraying and heat treating steps.
5. The method according to claim 2 comprising the step of forming the bar between the thermal spraying and shot peening steps.
6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the bar is heat treated.
7. The method according to claim 1 comprising the step of forming the bar into a desired stabilizer bar shape prior to the thermal spraying step.

8. The method according to claim 7 comprising the step of shot peening the bar subsequent to the thermal spraying step.
9. The method according to claim 7, wherein the bar is pre-heat treated.
10. The method according to claim 7 comprising the step of heat treating the bar between the forming and thermal spraying steps.
11. The method according to claim 7 comprising the step of shot peening the bar between the forming and thermal spraying steps.
12. The method according to claim 11 comprising the step of heat treating the bar between the shot peening and forming steps.
13. The method according to claim 2 comprising the step of heat treating the bar prior to the thermal spraying and shot peening steps.
14. The method according to claim 2 comprising the step of forming the bar into a desired stabilizer bar shape prior to the shot peening step.
15. The method according to claim 1 comprising the step of forming the bar into a desired stabilizer bar shape subsequent to the thermal spraying step.

16. A stabilizer bar having a portion with a first diameter and a thickened portion adjacent to said portion with a second diameter greater than said first diameter, said thickened portion including said portion and a layer of metal deposited on said portion reinforcing said portion.